(c) and (d) The proposal was for replacing sales-tax by additional excise duty. This was studied by an expert Committee for five items, namely Vanaspathi, Drugs & Medicines, Cement. Paper & Paper Board and Petroleum products. In the conference held in November, 1983 a large number of Chief Ministers indicated their acceptance of the scheme suggested by the Tripathi Committee for introduction of additional excise duty in lieu of sales-tax, in principle. However, some of the Chief Minister indicated that they were not in a position to accept this scheme recommended by the Tripathi Committee. At this meeting Chief Ministers resolved that efforts should be continued to bring about a consensus amongst the State Governments on these issues.

Supply of Sophisticated Weapons to Pakistan by United States

1471. SHRIMATI AMARJIT KAUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the United States is supplying latest missiles and other most sophisicated weapons to Pakistan;

(b) whether it is a fact that Pakistan Government has not given any undertaking to United States that the supplied American sophisticated weapons would not be used against India; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative what steps Government propose to take in the event of a Pak attack?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Government have seen reports regarding the USA supplying sophisticated modern weaponry including current generation missile to Pakistan under the US aid agreement concluded in 1981.

(b) Government have no information on whether or not Pakistan has given any undertaking to the United States that the weapons being received by her would not be used against India.

(c) Government monitor all developments which have a bearing on our security and initiate appropriate measures to ensure full defence preparedness.

Non-Payment of Excise Duty by Reliance Textile Industries Limited, Bombay

1472. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Reliance Textile Industries Limited, Bombay are not paying excise duty on their products;

(b) if so, what is the number of such evasion cases which have come to the notice of Government; and

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the matter, and if so, with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. M. KRISHNA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. No instance of non-payment of Central Excise Duty by M/s. Reliance Textile Industries Limited, Bombay has come to notice.

Report of the Panel Constituted to go into the Affairs of heavily losing NTC Mills

1473. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:
SHRI NARENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the panel constituted to investigate into the affairs of eight heavily losing NTC mills has submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are its main observations and suggestions, indicating specifically the suggestion in respect of each mill; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.